

UNCLASSIFIED 171306Z AUG 72 VIA BUNKER CHANNELS

FROM: WHITEHOUSE

TO: AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CITE: WHS2127

TONAK 54

AUGUST 17, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: MORNING NEWS SUMMARY

THE WASHINGTON POST

1

JONATHAN RANDAL, REPORTING FROM SAIGON DESCRIBES A SITUATION OF RAMPANT SPECULATION REGARDING YOUR ARRIVAL IN SAIGON. SOME SOUTH VIETNAMESE IN SAIGON FEEL THERE HAS BEEN A SOFTENING IN HANOI'S POSITION WHICH WILL SOON BRING A SOLUTION TO THE WAR. SOME EXPERTS IN SAIGON, SAYS RANDAL, BELIEVE THAT THE KISSINGER TRIP TO SAIGON AND THE THO TRIP BACK TO HANOI INDICATE THAT NEGOTIATIONS HAD REACHED A POINT DIRECTLY INVOLVING THE FUTURE SAIGON GOVERNMENT AND THIEU'S CONTINUED LEADERSHIP. (A-1, 14)

LOU CANNON IN MIAMI BEACH WRITES THAT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY YESTERDAY CLOSED THE DOOR TO ANY RIVAL NOMINATIONS TO PRESIDENT NIXON AND ALSO ADOPTED RULES THAT WILL, IN EFFECT, PREVENT ANY DISSENTING VIETNAM RESOLUTION FROM BEING RAISED ON THE CONVENTION FLOOR. (A-1, 7)

FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK, APPEARING BEFORE THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON REFUGEES HEADED BY SENATOR KENNEDY, SAID: "MY IMPRESSION IS THAT THE CHANCE OF THEIR (NORTH VIETNAM) RELEASING AMERICAN PILOTS WHILE THERE IS AMERICAN BOMBING OF THE NORTH IS

NIL, EXCEPT FOR THE SYMBOLIC RELEASE OF ONE, TWO OR THREE MEN."

(A-1, 14)

THE BALTIMORE SUN

ADAM CLYMER REPORTS THAT SENATOR MCGOVERN STATED THAT, AT HIS REQUEST, PIERRE SALINGER TALKED WITH NORTH VIETNAMESE REPRESENTATIVES IN PARIS, TELLING THEM THAT MCGOVERN WANTS A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE WAR; MCGOVERN HAD INITIALLY DENIED GIVING SALINGER ANY INSTRUCTIONS. (A-1)

BRIGITTA FALBE IN BONN NOTES THAT WEST AND EAST GERMANY HAVE ENTERED A NEW PHASE OF THEIR OFFICIAL NEGOTIATIONS IN EFFORTS TO REDEFINE THEIR LEGAL AND POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP, WITH BOHR AND KOHL MEETING FOR SEVERAL HOURS IN EAST GERMANY. (A-6)